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JEAN VALJEAN OF SOUTH FREE

Escaped Convict, Who Worked Up to Police Head, Now Pardoned.

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 5.—The governor of Georgia has granted a pardon, full and complete, to Thomas Edgar Stripling, who, as an escaped convict, with a life term for murder hanging over his head, made his way toward the North some years ago, began life anew and rose to the position of chief of police of Danville, Va.

In that position, pursuing criminals and shooting down several who tried to escape, Stripling himself successfully eluded detection until one day a man from his old home county chanced to stop in Danville and recognized the law officer of the thriving little Virginia city as the fugitive from Georgia justice. But this man did not deliberately betray his neighbor of former years. However, the weight of his discovery was too heavy to bear alone. He told some friends, and eventually the story came to the ears of a private detective who did the rest.

Efforts to Get His Release. Since the first day "Chief R. E. Morris" of Danville, was brought back to Georgia to resume his life sentence as Stripling, strong efforts have been made to obtain his release. All these had failed, however, until Governor Harris went to Milledgeville to inspect the state prison farm. While there one of Stripling's ten children, a girl of 6, rushed up to him on the prison grounds and made a childish plea.

"Please let my papa out," she said, "because he is sick, and us all need him so bad."

This seemed to touch the aged governor and he told the child: "Go and tell your papa that I will set him free."

Stripling on September 4, 1897, shot and killed W. J. Cornett, his neighbor, in Harris county, Ga. He fled through a window of Cornett's home. He surrendered himself at Columbus, Ga., a few days afterward, and eventually was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Feared for His Own Life. Stripling testified at the trial that Cornett had insulted both his wife and his married sister, living in the same neighborhood; that Cornett had threatened to kill him, and that when passing Cornett's house the night of the killing he could not restrain himself from shooting when he saw Cornett passing a window with a light in his hand. He claimed self-defense, as he said he believed "it was either Cornett's life or mine some time."

While in the Harris county jail while awaiting the outcome of an appeal, Stripling and a colored man held for murder escaped. Stripling remained hidden about two months at the home of a uncle in Harris county. He then ventured out and made his way to North Carolina, where his wife joined him in 1899. Under the name of R. E. Morris he did different kinds of work in several towns for a number of years. Finally he was employed by the Southern railway as a special agent. That work took him to Danville, where he had been about one year when he obtained a place on the police force. Nine months later the escaped convict was elected chief of police.

Knew of His Past Career. Stripling has stated since his return to Georgia that there were two men in Danville who knew his life story, but they remained silent. He said that on two or three occasions he saw other persons whom he believed recognized him. Finally, a man well known in Harris county, saw him, and soon afterward reports as to Stripling's whereabouts were heard. These reports seemed to W. W. Smith, a private detective, to warrant investigation. He obtained requisition papers from Governor Brown, of Georgia and proceeded to Danville. Smith established the identification beyond doubt.

On March 4, 1911, the Danville city council was to elect a chief of police, and it is said Stripling was practically assured of re-election notwithstanding some opposition had arisen because he had killed a young white man who had resisted arrest, had killed a colored man who was reported to have attempted to rob his home, and to have shot another colored man while resisting arrest.

On the afternoon of March 3, however, Smith presented the requisition papers to Danville authorities. Stripling was confronted with the facts and admitted his identity. Stripling, or "Chief Morris," requested the mayor and members of council to meet that night, as he had an important statement to make to them. Before the body that probably would have elected him chief for another term the next night he stood handcuffed, but in his uniform, and told the story of the shooting of "Bill" Cornett, of his escape and his movements during the nearly fourteen years of freedom. He still wore his uniform when placed in jail in Georgia.

Immediately came widespread efforts for a pardon. Governor Brown stated that he received 8,000 letters and telegrams from Georgia alone urging him to free Stripling. The board of pardons recommended his release. Governor Brown, in a lengthy view of the case, stated, however, "that it is not for me to say that the jury and the supreme court were wrong to obtain a legacy left him by his sister the way they decided it on exactly the same issues."

Soon after that decision Stripling began to fall in health, and is reported as thoroughly broken physically. His family moved to Milledgeville soon after he was sent to the prison and has resided near the prison farm since.

THIRTEEN

Languages Are Spoken by Priest Who Gives Up Ohio Parish.

BARTON, O., Aug. 5.—The Rev. Father Roderick A. McEachen, rector of St. Mary's Catholic church, will tomorrow leave for Rome and later become instructor in the Catholic university at Washington.

Father McEachen's congregation is a remarkable one. Its members speak in nine languages, the congregation being composed of local miners. Father McEachen delivers sermons in all their languages. He has mastered thirteen languages.

After McEachen founded the church here and has been known as the "father" of the residents. He was once a coal miner. He was arbiter of all troubles and disputes among the miners and frequently between the miners and operators. He came into national-wide prominence by his great work of relief of the miners and their families during the fourteen months' strike in eastern Ohio.

CHILDREN SPEEDY TYPISTS.

SPOKANE, Wash., Aug. 5.—Robert and Grace Rice, five-year-old twins of E. L. Rice, have been taught shorthand and typewriting by their father and can better the performance of many business college graduates. The father claims the children have a speed of 100 words a minute.

QUEER LEGACY.

BELLEVILLE, Ill., Aug. 5.—John Drovetta, oftasthri-LaColHRLLaUa Drovetta must either die or become ill to obtain a legacy left him by his sister, Mrs. Mary Canotte, who died about two weeks ago. She bequeathed one-fourth of a large estate to Drovetta to be used only for paying little bills incurred by sickness and for his funeral expenses.

"made" several bills and to show that they were good they passed them at the hotel bar. His Profound Interest. Karpis pretended to be deeply interested. He asked what the machine could be bought for and Hatos said he would let it go for \$5,000. Karpis whispered to Condor: "We'll take it before somebody else grabs it."

Karpis handed a roll of bills to Matos, supposed to contain \$3,000. Then Condor handed over the remainder. When Condor awoke next morning Karpis and Matos had fled. Condor traced them to Chicago.

Mr. Karpis Found. The other night he located Karpis at 317 West Thirty-fourth street. He went to the West Thirty-fourth street station and Lieutenant John Sullivan sent detectives to make the arrest. On nearing the house Condor espied Matos going for a can of beer.

BLACK MASKS ARE WORN IN THIS SOCIETY

Italy Has Strangest Brotherhood in World—The Misericordia.

In the streets of Leghorn, Italy, may frequently be seen a procession of a dozen men, clothed from head to toe in black, their face concealed by black calico masks falling to the waist, with two narrow openings for the eyes, and surrounded by black, broad-brimmed hats. Black gloves and a girdle and a rosary of black beads complete the funeral equipment.

Wit downcast eyes, what appears like a coffin borne on the shoulders of four of them, and preceded by a man carrying a large silver crucifix, they march quickly past, with a reverent mien and in the utmost silence. If, in their progress, the processionists pass a church they raise their hats; if they encounter a priest they put down their burden and fall on their knees to receive his blessing.

For Four Centuries. This spectacle has been familiar in Tuscany for four centuries. The black-garbed, black-voiled men are simply engaged in a work of mercy—the carrying of the dead to their graves and of the injured or sick to the hospitals. They are members of the great Misericordia Society, a brotherhood of pity, who give their services of the good work and wear their masks to hide their identity from curious eyes.

Four centuries ago, says Pearson's Magazine, the society was founded at Florence, where its headquarters are; and throughout Tuscany it has today no fewer than seventy branches. In Leghorn alone it has 9,000 members—probably one out of every five of the adult male population; and every member gives his services gladly and gratuitously.

At the stroke of the society's big bell—one stroke for a case of sickness, two for an accident, three for a death—the members flock quickly and silently to headquarters, and from the first-comes the senior brother chooses the number he requires. When his staff is marshaled he exclaims in a loud voice in Latin, "Let us proceed in peace," to which the response comes, "In the name of the Lord, Amen."

Steps Out Briskly. The gates are then thrown open, and with coffin or ambulance, in black robes and masks, the procession steps out briskly on its particular errand of mercy, returning to headquarters when the errand is performed, to be dismissed after signing their names and engaging in prayer together.

The society also distributes bread to the poor and provides small dowries for girls who would otherwise lack them. Every member, too, must be skilled in ambulance work; and when required must be prepared to sit up night after night with the sick, to whom, however, he is forbidden to speak a word.

There is no reward for the work except a medal of bronze or silver for those who are most diligent in attendance and the right of burial in a special cemetery.

IS OWN SURGEON

Sixteen-year-old Butcher Boy Removes His Appendix. Neatly and Efficiently

GREELY, Colo., August 5.—Row B. Wright, 16 years old, an employee of a butcher shop, removed his own appendix as neatly and efficiently, physicians say, as a surgeon might have done it.

The youth has spent years of his life as a carver of beavers. He was cutting meat in the butcher shop when, in stepping from one block to another, he slipped and fell directly upon a carving knife.

Associates in the shop hurriedly called in several physicians, one of whom was the young man's father. The surgeons found that the knife had turned in the wound and had severed the young man's appendix without injury to the flesh about it. He will recover.

CATS AID CLOVER

They Kill Field Mice, Enemy of the Bumble Bee, Needed for Pollination.

BEAVERTON, Ore., Aug. 5.—Given a number of farmers with good land and a burning desire to grow red clover: Show that cats—Tom and other-wise—are quite essential for a full realization of bumper crops. Local farmers figure it out thus: Large numbers of bumblebees are necessary for successful pollination. The common or garden variety of field mouse is ravenously fond of honey and wrecks man a happy bee's nest in the course of a season.

FREAK FASHION FROM LONDON IS THE NEW "CAP AND BELLS" BONNET



The "Cap and Bells" bonnet.

The society promenades of London have produced nothing new in the way of style more interesting than the new "Cap and Bells" bonnet. It is said to be unusual. It has something of a Robin Hood effect that is attractive and there is a streamer of plush balls suspended in the rear.

NO CURE FOR PLAGUE DR. DIXON DECLARES

Pennsylvania Health Commissioner Says to Beware of Quack Nostrums.

HARRISBURG, Pa., August 5.—Infantile paralysis is not nearly as deadly as many persons imagine it is, said State Health Commissioner Dixon. Moreover there are not near as many cures as many believe.

Doctor Dixon's statement is a reply to the thousands of inquiries regarding infantile paralysis that have been streaming in recently from every section of the state. The health commissioner warns the public against patent medicines and against the physician who says he has a cure for the disease. Dr. Dixon says:

"With the history of the world's workers on poliomyelitis and the results of our own work before us we have to acknowledge that the germ of this disease has not been found, and further, that we do not know how the disease is communicated from one person to another."

"There is no medicine or specific that will prevent it or cure it. Don't lose your head! Avoid patent medicines—they do harm. Call in your family physician if you get sick; he will not tell you he has a remedy that is a sure cure, and any one who does lies. Long, attentive treatment under a good doctor of medicine, and, helped, if possible, by a good nurse, will in many cases bring the child back to health."

Not So Much. "There is not as much paralysis as commonly believed. The reports of the outbreak in New York seem to establish this. On July 13 New York reported 1,600 cases of poliomyelitis, but only 403 of paralysis. Until we know more about that which produces the disease and how it is communicated from one person to another, we, with our present knowledge, strenuously recommend the following precautions:

All excepting the doctor and the one nursing the person sick of the disease must be kept out of the room set aside for the patient. If possible, keep children out of the neighborhood in which the disease prevails.

Keep all insects out of houses, particularly flies. Guard foodstuffs from flies. Flies may carry the disease. Feed children on cooked food as much as possible. See that the outside of bread or biscuits is kept clean and away from flies. Wagons, trucks, etc., carrying bread should not be kept in horse stables.

Screens Advised. Screen your houses and baby carriages or cribs or beds when the house is not fully screened.

The department has literature on this subject which you can get upon written request.

This department is in constant warfare to protect our people from disease. To accomplish the best results we must not only have the confidence of our people, but individual and public co-operation.

CORFU

Is Too Valuable as Naval Base to Be Abandoned by the Allied Powers.

CORFU, Greece, Aug. 5.—The completion of the transport of the Serbian army from Corfu to Saloniki, according to allied naval officers on the island by no means indicates that the Allies are going to abandon the island. Corfu is too valuable as a naval base from which the exit from the Adriatic can be commanded. With the Italian navy base at Brindisi and the French base at Tarente and the British base at Corfu and the German vessels slipping into the Mediterranean from Pola or Durazzo are very small. It will be a long time before the French flag ceases to float from the walls of the ancient fortress overlooking the town of Corfu, or convalescent French sailors to bask in the sun on the warm terrace of the Emperor William's villa, the Achilleon.

A new metal portable garage is sold by the foot. One buys just enough to cover one's car.

NEW SUPPLY FOUND FOR GUM FACTORIES

cal church workers.

War On House Fly. The combined efforts of city, county and private organizations is being sought here in a determined effort to entirely eliminate the fly in Grafton. A gigantic trapping campaign is being organized and special city ordinances are being prepared which will entirely dispense with the places that have heretofore formed breeding places for the flies. A "fly-killing day" is to be established some time in the near future.

Jailed in Illinois. Miss Eva Owens, of Grafton, aged 15, and J. A. Taylor, of Clarksville, are in jail at Aurora, Ill., awaiting a hearing on a charge of white slavery. If the charge is held good at a preliminary hearing, the case will be returned to the jurisdiction of Judge Dayton in this federal circuit.

Burglar Monkey. The pet monkey of Dr. O. D. Sutherland, who has been demonstrating the power of various medicines here for a week past, robbed his one night this week of several hundred dollars in money and part of it is still missing. One roll of bills was found the following morning on the porch roof outside Dr. Sutherland's room at a local hotel.

Smash Fishing Records. Fishing records are being smashed these days with the reports from the Buckhannon river. Local fishermen have brought in catfish, ranging from twenty-two twenty-four pounds up to forty-two pounds, which are the largest fish landed in this section in years. Bass up to four pounds have also been found in quantities though the sulphur water from the coal mines of this region have killed off the game fish.

QUEER WILL

Left by Mother Stipulates That Her Daughters Must Not Marry.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Aug. 5.—A law suit before Judge Wilhelm in the Orphan's court revealed one of the strangest wills ever probated in this county.

Caroline, Bertha, Louisa and Sarah Yaliesie, four unmarried middle-aged sisters, recently came into possession of an estate from their mother, valued at \$70,000, with the provision that if any got married that one would forfeit all

share in the estate. Miss Bertha, one of the sisters who shared in the legacy under these strange conditions, died a short time ago, and now two brothers who were disinherited by the will of their mother claim the right to share in her portion of the estate, claiming that she amply fulfilled the conditions imposed, inasmuch as she died a single woman.

SELLS SELF FOR SHOES.

WINNIPEG, Can., Aug. 5.—Wassil, Vonyak, young and fair, sold her life to Steve Baryok for a pair of shoes. They were pretty shoes with high French heels. In return she promised to marry Steve and live with him for life, says Steve. But the contract has been brought into court to test its validity.

GETS DIME IN YEAR.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Aug. 5.—Mrs. Ellen Boston has filed suit for divorce against her husband, T. Y. Boston, a prosperous farmer, alleging that he has spent only one dime on her during the year of their married life. Boston is seventy-five years of age and his wife seventy-two.

CLARKSBURG WATER WORKS & SEWERAGE BOARD.

Notice to Water Consumers

All water consumers desiring to use a lawn or street sprinkler in connection with the domestic supply must obtain a permit from the office, and any person or persons using city water without first obtaining such permit shall be liable to a fine of two dollars per day for every day said water is used.

In sprinkling streets each water taker must confine himself to the number of feet mentioned in his permit. Nozzles larger than one-fourth inch will not be permitted except upon additional charge, and sprinkling without a nozzle is forbidden.

Sprinkling streets and lawns is restricted to two hours per day, through hand hose held in the hand of a person on the premises of the water taker, one hour between 5 and 10 a. m., an one hour between 5 and 8 p. m. If a street sprinkler or hose is found out of order, leaking or used for any other purpose than that for which it was intended, the supply will be discontinued without previous notice.

Yard fountains or sprinkling devices will not be permitted unless the water shall first pass through a meter.

In deference to the general interest the use of a hose is strictly prohibited during the continuance of a fire, or while the fire pressure is maintained, except to protect property in danger of burning.

Patrons who are paying for sprinkler privilege will not be required to renew their permits. There is no fractional part of a sprinkling season which runs from July 1st, to September 1st, inclusive.

CLARKSBURG WATER WORKS & SEWERAGE BOARD.

Advance Fall Models

of high quality that correctly express the latest tendencies in women's footwear.

Here you will find the newest original style conceptions for the coming autumn.

All our low shoes are one-fourth off the regular prices, and early buyers will profit most.

THE NEW LACE PATTERNS

African brown kid high boot, grey kid top

Louis heel \$7.00

Dutch blue kid high boot, grey kid top

Louis heel \$7.00

Pearl grey kid high boot, Louis heel

Champagne kid high boot, Louis heel, \$6.00

Black kid high boot, white kid top, Louis heel \$5.00

SPEARS SHOE CO.

Fourth Street